

The Chicago Daily Tribune.

VOLUME 29.

CHICAGO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1875.

NUMBER 14.

WATCLES, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY, ETC.

LIPMAN'S MONEY LOAN OFFICE,

N. W. COR. MONROE AND CLARK-ST.

Save your money by buying bargains. Goods all genuine and latest styles, comprising Gold and silver Key and Seal-Winding Watches in Gold and Silver Cases, Solid Gold Vest and Chain, Gold Jewelry, Buttons, and Ear Rings; Gold, Cameo, and Onyx Sets of Jewelry, Full Set of Coral with Necklace, Set with Rosas and Parrots, Gold Bracelets, Pearl and Morocco Opera Glasses, &c., &c. Please call and examine. All goods warranted.

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SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULTS.

SAFETY!

DEEDS, WILLS, BONDS, SILVERWARE, Mortgages, JEWELRY, or other Valuables.

Not by Ladies, Business Men, Professional Men, Teachers, or Laborers, are secured against Fire and Burglars by depositing them in the

SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULTS

143, 145 & 147 RANDOLPH-ST.

Capital - \$200,000.00

Surplus - \$100,000.00

RECEIVES SAVINGS DEPOSITS

And Trust Funds, and allows interest thereon at the rate of six per cent per annum. Interest computed half yearly and added to the principal if not withdrawn. Having the finest

SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS

In the World, this Institution receives for Safe Keeping, at Low Rates,

Money, Diamonds, Deeds, Bonds, Coin, Silver Plate, Bullion, Wills, and Other Valuables.

Boxes or Safes in the BURGLAR-LINED VAULTS also rented, the renter alone having access to the same.

THE STATE SAVINGS INSTITUTION is the Most and Largest Savings Bank in the West.

6 Per Cent Interest on Deposits.

3. D. SPENCER, Pres't. | A. D. GUILD, Cashier.

OCEAN NAVIGATION.

STAR BALL LINE.

UNITED STATES & BRAZIL MAIL STEAMERS, sailing regularly every month from Watson's Wharf, 60 Pine St., N. Y.

For Brazil, Parma, Bahia, Rio Janeiro, calling at St. John, Puerto Rico.

NEVILLE MARTIN, 3,000 tons, Jan. 23, at 1 p. m.

JOHN BROWN, 2,000 tons, Jan. 23, at 1 p. m.

J. B. WALKER, 2,000 tons, Jan. 23, at 1 p. m.

When the last of the mails falls on Sunday, steamers will sail on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

For Brazil, Parma, Bahia, Rio Janeiro, calling at St. John, Puerto Rico.

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CRIMINAL NEWS.

Starling Developments in the Cases of the Condemned Persons at Herkimer, N. Y.

The Witness Upon Whose Testimony They Were Convicted Confesses Perjury.

Proposition to Compromise the Suits Against Ex-Collector Harper.

Bold Operations of a Female Draft Raiser in Michigan.

A Virago in Flatbush, N. Y., Goads Her Husband to a Terrible Deed.

CONVICTED ON PERJURIED TESTIMONY.

Utica, Dec. 27.—A short time ago Leodicea Fredenburgh, and Albert Fredenburgh, her son, were condemned to be executed at Herkimer, Dec. 31, for the murder of Orlo Davis, an aged cripple, in the town of Gray, Herkimer County. Last summer they were convicted on the evidence of Mary Davis, a young married daughter of Albert Fredenburgh, and daughter-in-law of the victim, and a widow. For what part the couple assigned the condemned has made application in vain for a stay of the sentence. The *Herald* of to-morrow will contain the confession of the girl Mary Davis, who has been laboring under the delusion that she and her grandmother committed the murder, and that her father had nothing to do with it. Albert has written a letter to the *Herald* declining intervention.

Franklin Davis, the husband of his daughter, and son of the victim, was condemned in this and other murders. It is believed that the old woman, Leodicea Fredenburgh, is irresponsible, and that her sentence will be commuted on the recommendation of experts.

EX-COLLECTOR HARPER.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 27.—Negotiations have been in progress for some time to secure the release of ex-Collector John T. Harper from the state gaol. His friends have delayed the suits against him, and the Hon. Thomas C. Robinson recently went to Washington, and it is understood that they got assurances from the Treasury Department and the Attorney-General that if the amount of the defalcation—\$100,000 or so—was made good, the suits would be allowed to drop. Strong local influence has been used to bear upon the friends of Harper, and it is believed that it is believed that Judge Treat, of the United States Court, is of the opinion that Harper was rather led into his offense. The friends of Harper have been instrumental in getting the money which was made up by Harper's father, who owns a farm in Woodford County worth \$20,000, and also by his executors, who are tolerably well-to-do. Whenever the money is paid over, it is expected that the suit will be struck from the docket.

GRAND RAPIDS ITEMS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 27.—A burglar named Charles Smith, who broke into a residence in Plainfield Thursday, and was captured in Walker yesterday, was arrested yesterday, condemned to death, and will be on his way to the State Prison for two years for one of the crimes to-morrow.

A motion for a new trial in the Christ murder case will be argued Wednesday afternoon.

A fellow named Fred Ackerman, a German, stabbed his cousin, Miss Carrie Gauss, aged 19, yesterday, cutting her below the heart. He went to her father's house where she was alone, and told her he was going to kill her. After a short and apparently frantic visit, he left, and was soon seen with the knife, and left her dying as he supposed. She may recover, but is very low. No motive is ascribed except that he was angry with her family because he was not bailed out of jail, and he was afraid he would be arrested. The Germans of our city are intensely excited, and they would handle him roughly should they catch him.

A KENTUCKY MELEE.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 27.—The *Courier-Journal* of Lebanon (Ky.) special reports the killing at that place to-day of two men, one a citizen of Louisville, the other of Lebanon. The dispatch says Thomas H. Chandler, Town Marshal of Lebanon, summoned a number of men to assist in arresting George F. Northcorth, who conducts a hotel there. Chandler and the citizens resisted arrest, and called on some roughs to assist him in evading the officer. A general row ensued, a number of shots being fired by both parties, and some of Northcorth's friends immediately killed Chandler. General excitement followed the killing, but no other rows occurred.

LOODTHIRSTY DUELISTS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—A dispatch from Leavenworth, Kan., states that two young men of Cass County, Mo., named Joseph Baldwin and John Hornbuckle, who had an alteration in a saloon Saturday night, which led to a challenge to fight according to the code. A duel with pistols was fought, and the two were wounded. When prompted by Chandler and the citizens he resisted arrest, and called on some roughs to assist him in evading the officer. A general row ensued, a number of shots being fired by both parties, and some of Northcorth's friends immediately killed Chandler. General excitement followed the killing, but no other rows occurred.

AN INFORMAL DUEL.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. CONVERSWELL, Ind., Dec. 27.—Intelligence has reached here of an affray at Evertown Village, 5 miles from the city, between John Warner and Edward Thompson, the son of which Thompson discharged a dozen shots at Warner, one of which, taking effect in the nose, proved fatal. The trouble was the result of a grudge which has existed between the two men for some time.

KILLED HIS INFANT CHILD.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 27.—Patrick Gallacher, getting drunk on Christmas night, attempted to strike his wife, but struck his infant child, killing it instantly.

The mother's jury returned a verdict that the person from whom the child was born was guilty of the murder of the boy. The father, Philip Gallacher, was held in \$1,000 to answer before the supreme court.

THE NEW YORK CANAL FRAUDS.

ALBANY, Dec. 27.—The Canal Investigating Committee report that "Auditor Thayer's purchases of drafts and certificates against the State, on the 7th of December, 1874, and the 23d of January, 1875, were for the sum of \$18,543, and large to this sum appears we have reason to believe it is still far from complete."

A CONFLICT WITH BURGLARS.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 27.—Moses A. Wood, in concert with two burglars, at his house in Cambridge, Mass., yesterday morning, was stabbed three times and shot in the abdomen. Both burglars were hurt, but left \$2,000 worth of goods which they had stolen. Mr. Wood's injuries are believed to be fatal.

A VAGRANT MAN COMPREHENDED.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 27.—A tramp broke into the school-house, here, built a fire, tore school-books, roasted potatoes, and stole two thermometers. The building narrowly escaped destruction. House of Correction for one year.

STABBED THIRTY-THREE TIMES.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—The *Gazette's* Charleston (W. Va.) special says a coal-miner named Lee was stoned by two miners named Dawson and

Eatonton, 4 miles from that city, last Saturday evening, and stabbed thirty-three times. The murderers are in jail.

EFFECTS OF WHISKY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—Green Fielding, a negro, was fatally shot Saturday night at Platte City, Mo., by a companion named Reuben Skilman, while engaged in a drunken quarrel. Skilman is now in jail.

HOMICIDE BY A CRAZY MAN.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—An old man, an inmate of the County Infirmary for the past thirty-five years, was killed Saturday by a crazy negro named Martin striking him on the head with a shovel.

FATAL AFFRAY.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 27.—Richard Parvey was fatally shot by James Redwine, near Fisher's Station, in Hamilton County, Friday afternoon. The parties were quarreling about the result of a shooting-match for a turkey.

FATALLY SHOT.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Dec. 27.—During a cook-fight, early Sunday morning, at Matewan, John Horne, a saloon-keeper, was fatally shot by a man named McKinney, of Fishkill Landing.

RAISING DRAFFS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune. ST. JOSEPH, Mich., Dec. 25.—On the 16th of October last, a stout woman about 30 years of age, representing herself as H. S. Allen, called at the First National Bank in this place and purchased a draft of the National Park Bank of New York for \$8,25. Mr. W. E. Ferguson, of the bank, told her that she had no right to make application in vain for a stay of the sentence. The *Herald* of to-morrow will contain the confession of the girl Mary Davis, who has been laboring under the delusion that she and her grandmother committed the murder, and that her father had nothing to do with it. Albert has written a letter to the *Herald* declining intervention.

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THE POOL.

HOPES THAT IT WILL BE BROKEN UP.

The managers of the various railroads leading from this city are beginning to realize that the merchants and shippers of Chicago and the Northwest will not longer stand the outrageous rates in the conduct of their business. Between the central and a road of all will be soon severed, and the mystery of the sudden appearance of the flames was solved. On the previous night a robbery had taken place, and the railroad companies had given a consultation with the two great railroad divisors, Scott and Vanderbilt, and to improve the railroads for connecting with the north.

The sequel at any rate would so indicate.

If they did not know that he was the real criminal, they at least knew to whom he might be a bad character, and so deteriorate ruffians who might be in the city from any further prosecution of their plans.

Mr. Van Slyck made the following statement to reporters to-day. At 1 o'clock this morning while I was asleep in the Curry Engine-House, I was aroused by a noise of whispering, and peeping from my room, I saw some officers of the police force in the engine-house. They all masked and carried dark lanterns. Some others had made the engine-house their sleeping place for several nights, and the masked men evidently knew it; I learned afterward that they were the police force.

They approached a sleeping form, and, roughly shaking it by the shoulder, said in a low, determined voice: "Burst up; put on your clothes, and be off to the police station." Without a word, Burt arose from his clothes, and was marched out into the moonlit, quiet streets—so quiet that although the engine-house is the very center of the city, not a soul but those immediately engaged in the affair and myself knew anything about it.

A CHRISTMAS ROW IN LOUISVILLE.

Louisville Courier-Journal, Dec. 26.

A very serious row occurred yesterday in the underground saloons of the northern corner of Market and Third streets, known as the "Red Jacket." More than two dozen young men, most of whom were more or less under the influence of liquor, were engaged in the row.

From the statements of some of the participants and witnesses related to a reporter yesterday afternoon, it seemed that the affair grew out of an old score existing between John Meger and John Whalan. These men, with a number of others, after indulging very freely in liquor, went to the Red Jacket. The proprietor of the place watched them very closely, to prevent them from getting into a number of difficulties, and to make the pool was engineered for the purpose of TERRIFYING THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY.

For their operation in this way, it is believed that the millers of Minnesota and Wisconsin can ship their flour to New York for 70 cents per barrel, while Chicago millers have to pay 90 cents per barrel. This is undoubtedly the most out-and-out robbery of the population of this city than the products of the Chicago millers. While from 90 cents is charged on a barrel of flour made in Illinois and Chicago, only 80 cents per barrel is charged on flour made in Minnesota or Wisconsin. The rate from Chicago and Milwaukee is the same by all the lines except the Detroit & Milwaukee and the Grand Trunk lines, which are not in the pool, and hence charge 10 cents less from the latter city to the Minnesota millers by the pool lines, and thus it comes that the millers of Minnesota and Wisconsin can ship their flour to New York for 70 cents per barrel, while Chicago millers have to pay 90 cents per barrel. This is undoubtedly the most out-and-out robbery of the population of this city than the products of the Chicago millers.

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AMUSEMENTS.

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between Dearborn and State. Engagement of the Oates Opera Troupe. "The Princess of Trebizonde."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, between Madison and Monroe. "The Orphans."

HOOLEY'S THEATRE—Randolph street, between Randolph and LaSalle, "Eddy & Leo's Minstrels."

NEW CHICAGO THEATRE—Clark street, between Dearborn and State. Afternoon. "Red Riding-Hood," Evening. "Jack Harkaway's Adventures."

ADELPHI THEATRE—Dearborn street, corner Monroe. "The Forty Thieves."

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

ORIENTAL LODGE, No. 28 A. F. and A. M.—Hall, No. 12 LaSalle-st.—Special Communication on this (Tuesday) evening at 7:30 o'clock, for induction of those elected and appointed for the ensuing Master-year. By order of the Master. E. N. TUCKER, Secy.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

DR. MCINTOSH'S DENTAL PARLORS, CORNER Clark and Randolph-btws. Why pay \$5 and \$10 a set when you get the ed. for \$8? No friction, or money refunded. Filling at half rates, warranted ten years.

The Chicago Tribune.

Tuesday Morning, December 28, 1875.

Warmer and partly cloudy weather are the conditions predicted for this region to-day.

Greenbacks at the New York Gold Exchange yesterday opened and closed at \$82, the highest point reached for months.

The French Assembly is now considering the French bill, an amendment to which was adopted yesterday, providing a penalty for attacks upon the Republic.

The gross receipts of the Illinois Central Railroad for the six months ending Oct. 31, 1875, were \$2,732,932.20. Of this sum, 7 per cent, or \$193,306.65, is paid into the State Treasury.

The work of restoring the Column Vendome, destroyed by the Communists, was yesterday completed, and the statue of Napoléon was replaced on the top of the column. No public ceremonies attended the proceeding.

Negotiations are pending for a compromise of the suits brought against ex-Collector JOHN T. HARPER, at Springfield, Ill., on account of his defalcation of over \$100,000. If his friends succeed in raising the money necessary to make good the deficit, it is believed that the suits will be struck from the docket of the United States Court.

Fifteen States have taken a census of population in 1875, and the total increase since 1870 is estimated at a little over 2,000,000. As these States had in 1870 something more than one-third of the population of the United States, a common average progress throughout would show an aggregate increase in five years of upward of 5,000,000, or a total population of 44,000,000.

A Mutual Council is to be called by Plymouth Church and Mrs. Mourtouz to consider the two questions submitted by that lady—the sufficiency and validity of the reasons of the Church for dropping her name from the roll; and the sufficiency and validity of Mrs. Mourtouz's reasons for abstaining so long from the services and sacraments of the Church. This course was decided upon at the Plymouth meeting last evening, when it was also voted to call an Advisory Council.

The Whisky-Thieves' Organ now says, with an eloquence only equaled by Joyce after he was convicted and sentenced to the Penitentiary, that it "defies malice, dares investigation, and challenges scrutiny." This is touching, if not convincing. If the Whisky-Thieves' Organ had contented itself with grandiloquent generalizations of this sort all the time, it would have received more credit than after making an infamous attempt to break down the prosecution of the Whisky King by falsely accusing Secretary Bairrow of being implicated in it.

The ninety-eighth anniversary of the Battle of Trenton, which occurred Dec. 26, 1777, was celebrated yesterday at Trenton, N. J., in a mock engagement between the Federal troops and the British army. The patriot soldiers were led by Gen. WASHINGTON, and the surrender of the Hessians was "full and accomplished by the time the battle was over, greatly to the delight of the enthusiastic spectators. Subsequently the victors and vanquished were sumptuously dined at Washington Hall—a feature of the programme which was omitted ninety-eight years ago.

Further examination of the books of ED PHILLIPS, the South Town Assessor, gives still clearer evidence of the breadth and depth of the villainy sought to be practiced upon the tax-payers. The assessments were plainly influenced by bribes and favoritism, and were without a pretense of fairness and equality. The Common Council has appointed a special Committee to investigate the matter, but in the meantime Collector EVANS is preparing to enforce the payment of taxes by levy if necessary, and before the Investigating Committee can accomplish anything—if, indeed, it has any power at all—a great part of the personal tax outrage will have been consummated.

The Chicago produce markets were generally easier yesterday. Mop pork was active and declined 5¢ per lb., closing at \$19.00 cash and \$19.25(\$19.27) for February. Lard was more active, and 45¢ per lb. lower, closing at \$12.12^{1/2} cash and \$12.30(\$12.32) for February. Meats were quiet and easier, at 7¢ for boxed shoulders, 10¢(\$10) for do short ribs, and 10¢ for do short clears. Higginbotham were dull and steady at \$1.09 per gallon. Flour was dull and unchanged.

er, closing at 94¢ cash and 95¢ for January. Corn was dull and firm, closing at 48¢ for December and 43¢ for January. Oats were quiet and steady, closing at 29¢ cash and 30¢ for January. Rye was quiet at 67¢(\$6.60). Barley was irregular, but 2¢ lower, closing at 81¢(\$8.20) for cash and 80¢ for January. Hogs were dull and 5¢(\$10) higher, closing firm at \$6.00(\$7.00) for common to choice. Cattle were dull and unchanged. Sheep were quiet and nominal. One hundred dollars in gold would buy \$112.62 in greenbacks at the close.

As a preliminary maneuver preceding an attack in force upon the County Treasury, Sheriff AVERY has prepared and submitted to the County Board a communication setting forth the illegality of the Board's action in reducing to 30 cents per day his compensation for feeding prisoners in the Jail. The matter has been referred to the Judiciary Committee, who will obtain from the Attorney GENERAL an "opinion" that the Board has "no authority to cut down the Sheriff's profits on prison fare, and the old rate of 35 cents will be restored at an added expense of something like \$10,000 to the tax-payers. It is found necessary to pacify the Sheriff in these little matters, for in no other way can juries be packed and security afforded to political criminals.

Another move in the grand conspiracy of the anarcho-monopoly to put down production and put up prices is reported from Philadelphia, where it has been decided that the 15,000 miners in the Wyoming region shall be thrown out of employment for a period of three months or more, beginning on Friday of this week. A suspension of one month only is ordered, but it is understood that the "necessary work of repairs" will add another month and probably more to the period of enforced idleness and crime. It is expected that the order of suspension will soon extend to the great Laramie region, and then the soulless combination will be ready to issue a new schedule of increased prices for all the coal above ground. Then will follow a fierce struggle between the mine operators, aided by the authorities on one hand and the vast army of idle, desperate miners on the other, and, as usual, the least guilty of the contending parties will fare the worst.

CRAWFISHING.

The Whisky-Thieves' Organ has already begun to crawfish out of the false and defamatory article of Saturday, in which it stated that Gen. BANCROFT proposes to appear before a Democratic Committee of Congress to shelter under the "safe-conduct" statute, and make a full confession of what he knows about the whisky frauds, and produce evidence implicating Secretary BAIRROW. The Chicago Whisky-Thieves' Organ now refers to its Saturday article as a "local news article," and says that it would have made an editorial statement discrediting a portion of it, "had the late hour at which it was obtained permitted editorial comment." Now the Whisky-Thieves' Organ cannot hope to escape the penalty of its recklessness, and perhaps its desperation, by an explanation so attenuated and palpably false. The "local news article" was printed in large type, "loudly" leaded, given the first place in the paper, and rendered conspicuous by half a column of flaming head-lines. It was not a news article, for the developments of a single day have been sufficient to show that there was no news in it, but that it was pure and malicious invention from beginning to end. It was not the kind of an article that would have been inserted without the knowledge and sanction of the editor. It was used, however, in reference to the State law as it stood in April, 1868, and with reference to the assessment of taxes for the year 1868. Since then, there has been a new Constitution and a general revision of the laws, and the Revenue law of the State has been entirely remodeled. Under the new law, that of 1872, there are no rates of taxation fixed by the county or local Boards; these bodies certify to the County Clerk merely the amounts they need to be raised by taxation. The General Revenue law of 1872 contains the following provisions, which do not occur in the Revenue law as it stood in 1868.

Sec. 117. All rates for taxes, hereinafter provided for, shall be extended by the County Clerk the assessment of property, as equalized and assessed by the State Board of Equalization.

Sec. 118. The County Board, the respective commissioners of the several townships, at their first meeting in September session, determine the amounts of all taxes to be raised for county purposes, the aggregate amount of which shall not exceed the rate of 75 cents on the \$100 valuation of property, except for payment of indebtedness existing at the adoption of the new State Constitution, unless otherwise provided by a vote of the people.

Sec. 119. The proper authorities of townships, districts, and incorporated cities, towns, and villages, collecting taxes under the provisions of this act, shall annually, on or before the second Tuesday in August, certify to the County Clerk the several amounts which they severally require to be raised by taxation, which they severally require to be raised by taxation, as in 1868.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

The Loan Market Hardly Maintains the Activity of Last Week.

Smaller Country Orders for Currency—New York Exchange Firm.

The Produce Markets Generally Easier—Provisions More Active.

A Fair Movement in Wheat—The Rest Quiet.

FINANCIAL.

The business of the banks was light, considering that two holidays had intervened. The loan market continues to work close. The country demand was not quite as extensive as it has been, but the city demand made up the difference. There is a good deal of borrowing from miscellaneous sources to meet up for the year. The "Daily Journal" and other papers have a good many small loans and advances taken. The supply of Board of Trade paper is small. The leading banks have no 8 per cent money on hand except for favored customers.

Rates of discount are 8-10 per cent at the banks. On the street business remains quiet, while rates 8-12 per cent.

The New York exchange was firm, but fluctuated in price, selling between banks at 25-75c discount for 15,000.

There were fewer orders from the country for currency.

The clearings were \$3,700,000.

DEPARTMENT BANK STATEMENTS.

The truthfulness of the representations of savings bank statements are not, it is to be hoped, fairly represented by the following. It is a comparison of the values of the securities of the Third Avenue Savings Bank as they were returned in its statements and as they really were. Here is the list:

Assets—
Banking houses \$10,000,000
House adjoining bank 10,000
House One Hundred, Fifty
and one thousand dollars 10,000
Tenants property 5,024
Tarrytown property 2,000
House 30 East Forty-ninth
street 30,000
House 1 East Forty-ninth
street 5,000
House No. 19 East Forty-ninth
street 9,000
House No. 22 East Forty-ninth
street 122,000
House No. 23 East Forty-ninth
street 9,000
House No. 25 East Forty-ninth
street 9,000
House No. 26 East Forty-ninth
street 9,000
Bonds and notes 118,000
Dime stock 150,000
Dimock mortg. 55,000
Worthless mortg. 10,000
Lombard notes 10,000
Alabama bonds 65,500
Tennessee bonds 7,000
Virginia bonds 2,000
Total \$21,300 \$350,434

Here is a statement of losses on 50 per cent more than half a million dollars. The bank bonds may be contested and may reduce this discrepancy still more. The mortgages that the bank held were found in some cases to be worthless.

FINANCES IN PHILADELPHIA.

Bankers were not in a position to know their business well at the end of the year, our banks are becoming a little close-fisted in meeting the calls of their customers. The figures of their weekly reports show reasons for their conduct. Their line of business has been gradually lessening for the past two months, and it is between the 200 and October 1st. The reports, however, show that there has been a reduction of \$21,300,000 as former date, \$50,325,000 at the latter—a difference of \$26,975,000! Between the same two dates the depositors have increased \$1,000,000, and the bank deposits by the last weekly report aggregating but \$31,000,000, against \$30,943,000 in October—a decrease of \$81,000.

The following statement fully explains the contraction of the loan line, and accounts for any little complaining that is occasionally heard, as well as of an accommodating spirit at bank—*Leader*.

THE CANADIAN BANK.

An official statement of the condition of the Provincial Bank of the 30th of November has been promulgated, showing a balance of \$1,200,000. According to a Canadian journal, the amount should exceed on February last was \$12,800,000; in June there was a reduction to \$12,200,000, and in November to \$115,700,000, showing a total reduction of \$7,300,000 during the year. The Canadian banks are becoming a little close-fisted in meeting the calls of their customers. The figures of their weekly reports show reasons for their conduct. Their line of business has been gradually lessening for the past two months, and it is between the 200 and October 1st. The reports, however, show that there has been a reduction of \$21,300,000 as former date, \$50,325,000 at the latter—a difference of \$26,975,000! Between the same two dates the depositors have increased \$1,000,000, and the bank deposits by the last weekly report aggregating but \$31,000,000, against \$30,943,000 in October—a decrease of \$81,000.

The balance due from agencies has increased to \$50,617,000.

MAKING TAX ON SURPLUS IN NEW YORK.

Bank officers were somewhat startled yesterday by the announcement that the New York County (National) Bank had declared a dividend of 100 per cent. Inquiry last evening of one of the Directors of the bank was to the effect that the dividend was to be provided for a local tax of 2 per cent on their surplus capital. This tax was regarded with the greatest favor by all the banks, but it was insisted that it was legal and must be paid. The master was finally called to the courts, the banks in the meantime putting in a protest, and the tax was suspended. The tax was practicable, under the supposition that these bonds were free of all tax. The Director, however, stated that the tax was to be paid on the whole amount of the bank's capital, and that the tax was to be paid on the surplus provided for a local tax of 2 per cent on their surplus capital.

The result was that measures were in process of being taken to disclaim the tax, and the payment of the tax under protest in the hope that the subsequent legislation might be protracted which would give the banks time to act.

The Bank had a surplus of \$35,000, and a tax capital of \$60,000. The Directors had resolved to declare a dividend of 100 per cent on the surplus.

The resolution was to the effect that the dividend would be the basis of future business, and that the bank would be entitled to a dividend of 100 per cent on the surplus.

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LEGALIZED ROBBERY.

The Class of Men Who Made the South-Side Assessment.

How They Got Their Places, and How They Made Their Money.

Mr. Phillips Wished to Put the Responsibility Off on Them.

Glaring Instances of Undervaluation in the South Town.

The Merchants, Gamblers, and Saloon-Keepers Find Official Protection.

Letters from the Afflicted.

UNJUST DISCRIMINATIONS.

CHARACTERS AGAINST THE DEPUTY ASSESSOR.

The outcry made on the South Side against the unjust personal taxation, and the determination to fight it out legally wherever the opportunity presents itself, is reaping its reward. The fact is, that the County Board and City Council are about to have their heads together and see what they can do towards relieving the victim of an unjust and unkindly discrimination. Before going into any details, it might be well for the average reader and tax-payer to peruse the following facts, as gleaned by a TRIBUNE reporter. The source from which they emanate is trustworthy, and the facts will need no proof with any one at all cognizant of the subject.

TOWN ASSESSOR.

especially in South Chicago, have been made almost exclusively by men unfitted for the purpose. The increase of values as made by these men on personal property, varies in special instances from 5 to 600 per cent of his fair cash taxable value. This is manifestly unjust.

Aside from this actual robbery, it is nothing else—it should be taken into consideration, too, that there is a great difference between the actual market and taxable value of personal property at certain seasons of the year. As for instance: The value of a certain stock may be considerable in the fall of the year, as with furs and winter goods; in the summer it is literally a dead stock. Assessors would place the taxable value of stock at a fixed price which it would bring if offered in the market. However, the levy of 1875 disregarded all such rules and placed the values far above what they really were. The present Assessor of South Chicago,

ED PHILLIPS.

was Assessor two years ago, and he made at that time an assessment which was termed by many as simply damnable, so far as it related to personal property. Notwithstanding Phillips' experience in making the last assessment on personal property, a short time ago, he was given the task of making the next. Among the lot of thirty-five assessors which Ed Phillips had, there were not three who understood the first principle of making either a personal or real property assessment.

They were all professional bummers, looking after the political drapings as they came from the fist-pots of office, and seeking a suck at the public teat only to admit in drinking it of the milk. The names of these Assessors have, as heretofore known, some of these worthless men in good old Massachusetts, at least during the present Government. Yours respectfully,

H. F. B.

OVER 15,000 NAMES.

to care for and people to see. He only received his books on the 15th of May, and was compelled to have the assessment on real and personal property finished by the 15th of July. Corporations, he says, were left until the last. He had himself seen A. C. Hasing in regard to the *Staats-Zeitung*, and he had referred Phillips to the *Staats-Zeitung* for information. Phillips, a professional bummer, looking after the political drapings as they came from the fist-pots of office, and seeking a suck at the public teat only to admit in drinking it of the milk. The names of these worthless men in good old Massachusetts, at least during the present Government. Yours respectfully,

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WEST SIDE TAX ROBBERS.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

Chicago, Dec. 24.—I notice the press ignore

the sufferings of the West Side residents from exorbitant and unjust taxes. The Citizens' Association has been doing all it can to bring trouble,

but the Assessors were "seen."

By comparing the assessment as made by Mr. James Gleason, the Fifth Ward election judge, is

the iniquities in the assessment of a certain

class of taxable citizens of the Town of South Chicago can only be accounted for or explained under the supposition that a certain class of people, and in proportion to the

value of the personal property, which the Assessors were "seen."

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